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RUMANIAN CHEMICAL INDUSTRY TRIES NEW METHODS, MAKES NEW PRODUCTS

NEW PROCESS FOR MAKING VISCOSE RAYON

The Bucharest German-language newspaper Neuer Weg (New Road) reports that the domestic rayon industry will undertake the production of viscose rayon by the continuous spinning process. The necessary technical equipment has been developed by the work collective of the Viscofil factory.

For this work the responsible engineers have been awarded the national prize. The process involves the well-known continuous factory method employed in the US, in which the same machine spins and threads the fiber.

METALLIC NICKEL PRODUCTION

The Rumanian Information Bureau reports that metallic nickel is now being produced in Rumania. The nickel ore garnierite $(NiMg)_3H_4Si_2O_{11}$ found in the Banat is used as raw material.

PRODUCTION OF VITAMIN H

The Rumanian Information Bureau announced that the Chimico Cooperative in Bucharest recently began the production of vitamin H (Biotin).

PRODUCTS OF SINCOOP COOPERATIVE

Water colors, ink, laundry blueing, and typewriter ribbons are being produced by the Sincoop Manufacturers' Cooperative, established in Timosoara in February 1950 with the amalgamation of 30 small enterprises. Sincoop also produces wood cement for the furniture industry, although it is difficult to procure the necessary acid casein.

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A branch for the production of photographic paper is also being developed despite great difficulties. Sincoop, according to chief engineer Schulz (fnu) is trying to produce dextrin from wild chestnuts, and to develop various glues such as Pelikanol, which may also be used as a finishing (sizing) preparation by the textile industry.

NEW DYE PRODUCTS

The Bucharest German-language newspaper Neuer Weg (New Road) on 4 July reported that the Colorom dye factory in Codlea will produce 30 tons of organic dyestuffs in excess of its planned output by the end of the year. Production of H-acid, a well-known intermediary dye product, has increased considerably in the last 10 months.

Three other dye products are to be added: sulfur blue, crystal violet, and malachite green. Crystal violet (Hexamethyl-p-rosaniline-hydrochloride) may in certain instances be used by veterinarians to combat red erysipelas in swine.

On 7 March 1951 a new branch was added to the Colorom dye factory. It will produce ink, India ink, and special dyes for silk fabrics. This installation is allegedly financed by Soviet funds. Another plant, in which the raw materials and the intermediary products for the new branch will be produced, is under construction.

EXTRACTION OF MAGNESIUM FROM SEA WATER

According to Prof S. Gheorgiu, director of the Institute for Power, magnesium has recently been extracted from sea water in Rumania. The production follows the method used in the US: magnesium chloride dissolved in sea water is changed into insoluble magnesium hydroxide by adding milk of lime. By adding hydrochloric acid, the $Mg(OH)_2$ is changed back into magnesium chloride, which is dissociated through electrolysis into chlorine and magnesium metal.

CHEMICAL RESEARCH PROJECTS

According to a Rumanian report, chemical research is in the hands of the ICEPS (Institute for Scientific Research, Semi-Industrial Experiments, and Planning), which was established after the war. The most noted chemists and chemical engineers are said to be doing industrial research as members of this institute. The organization maintains close cooperation with chemical enterprises to encourage and aid experimentation.

The establishment of a plant which produces acetylene from natural gas on a semi-industrial scale is projected. Special study is being devoted to the production of aliphatic chemicals. The possibilities are being studied of producing cellulose from reeds, large quantities of which are available domestically, as well as of producing organic dyes, sulfonamides, antisyphilitics, and synthetic resins.

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